Bank branches in Jharkhand

397. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the density of bank branches in Jharkhand;

(b) how does it compare with the States like Gujarat, Maharashtra, Punjab and Tamil Nadu and newly constituted State of Uttarakhand; and

(c) what steps are being taken to improve the bank density in Jharkhand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) As reported by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the Average Population per Bank Branch (APPBB) as on 31.3.2008 for Jharkhand compared with certain other States is as follows:

State	APPBB ('000)
Jharkhand	18
Gujarat	14
Maharashtra	15
Punjab	9
Tamil Nadu	12
Uttarakhand	9
All-India	15

(c) The banks are opening additional branches in the State, in order to improve the APPBB ratio in Jharkhand.

Credit Default Swap

398. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether 'Credit Default Swap (CDS)' has emerged to be one of the important business instruments in the financial sector;

(b) if so, salient features of CDS highlighting its distinction from other derivatives;

(c) whether it is approved by the Reserve Bank of India;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the bank/financial institution-wise details of transactions made in CDS during the last three years, year-wise;

(f) the bank/financial institution-wise details of CDS accounts remaining outstanding to be settled as on September, 2008 indicating the volume which fell over-due for settlement; and

(g) the measures being taken by the regulators to ensure full settlement of commitments by parties involved in CDS transactions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (g) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available.

Future commodity derivative markets

399. SHRI SHARAD ANANTRAO JOSHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of countries in the world that have future commodity derivative markets;

(b) the volume of agricultural and non-agricultural commodities trade transacted by each of the commodity exchanges;

(c) the aggregate measure of support for the farmers in the countries that have commodity exchanges;

(d) the aggregate measures of support for the farmers in countries that do not have commodity futures derivative markets;

(e) the cost per transaction on each of these commodity exchanges; and

(f) the incidence of and the rate of commodity transaction tax prevailing in each of those countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) There are about 35 major commodities exchanges in the world. Brazil, US, Argentina, Canada, Malaysia, Japan, Thailand, China, Dubai, India, Pakistan, Singapure, Netherlands, United Kingdom, Germany, France, Hungary, Australia, etc. are the countries in which major commodity exchanges are located.

(b) The volume of agriculture and non agriculture commodities traded by the major Commodity Exchanges in the world is given in Statement-I (*See* below).

(c) and (d) Details of the aggregate measures of support for the farmers in countries that have commodity futures derivative markets are given at Statement-II (*See* below)

(e) The details of transaction charges on some major Commodity Exchanges are at Statement-III (*See* below).

(f) As per the information available with Forward Markets Commission, the Regulator for commodity futures trading, the commodity transaction tax is not applicable in any of the countries except Taiwan. Taiwan imposed a transaction tax of 0.05% on the value of all futures contract. The Taiwan Futures Exchange immediately lost trading volume to the Singapore Exchange. In 2000. Taiwan reduced its transaction tax to 0.025% and in 2005 further reduced the CTT to 0.01%. But more importantly, in Taiwan, the Stocks and Commodity Derivatives are traded on the same Exchange, namely TAIFEX, and the commodity derivatives volume is negligible (mainly gold) i.e. 0.003% of the total Commodity Derivatives volume in the world. The total tax collected by Taiwan Government from CTT in 2007 was a meager sum of US$ 17,071.